AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 15 through 28, and 31 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claim 32 as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink

comprising a substrate, an undercoat layer and a porous ink receiving layer provided in this order,

wherein said undercoat layer comprises an increasing region in which a reactive substance capable of reacting with a coloring agent contained in ink and holding said coloring agent is present with such a distribution as to increase in the direction of depth of said undercoat layer, and a position with the maximum concentration of the reactive substance is in the increasing region.

2 - 3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 1, wherein said increasing region is not present in said ink receiving layer.

5. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 4, wherein said ink receiving layer contains alumina hydrate and a binder for said alumina hydrate.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 1, wherein said ink receiving layer contains at least a pigment for holding a coloring agent of an ink, and a binder for said pigment, and said ink receiving layer includes a first layer region in which said binder is crosslinked with a first crosslinking agent and is made uniform relative to said pigment and a second layer region in which said binder is crosslinked with the first crosslinking agent and a second crosslinking agent so as to have a crosslinking degree higher than that in the first layer region, and said first layer region is positioned closer to said ink recording surface than said second layer region.

8. (Original) A recording medium for ink according to claim 7, wherein said ink receiving layer is formed by applying a coating liquid which is formed by mixing and dissolving at least alumina hydrate as said pigment for forming the first layer region, polyvinyl alcohol as said binder and orthoboric acid as said first crosslinking agent, on a moist surface containing a tetraborate salt as said second crosslinking agent for forming said second layer region.

9. (Original) A recording medium for ink according to claim 8, wherein the content of said orthoboric acid contained in said coating liquid per unit area is less than a content of said sodium tetraborate contained in said moist surface per unit area.

10. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 7, wherein said ink receiving layer is 30 g/m^2 or higher.

11. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 1, wherein said ink receiving layer contains at least a pigment for holding a coloring agent of an ink and showing a viscosity change in response to pH, and a binder for said pigment, said ink receiving layer includes a first layer region in which said binder is crosslinked with a first crosslinking agent of a pH value capable of maintaining said pigment at a low viscosity, and a second layer region in which said binder is crosslinked with the first crosslinking agent and a second crosslinking agent of a pH value capable of maintaining said pigment at a high viscosity, and said first layer region is positioned closer to said ink recording surface than said second layer region.

12. (Original) A recording medium for ink according to claim 11, wherein said second layer region has a crosslinking degree, due to said second crosslinking agent, higher than said first layer region.

13. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 11, wherein said pigment has a low viscosity at a relatively low pH value and changes to a high viscosity at a relatively high pH value, and said second layer region is formed by applying a coating liquid of a low pH value, prepared by mixing and dissolving said pigment, said binder and said first crosslinking agent, on a moist surface of a high pH value containing said second crosslinking agent.

14. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 1, wherein said ink receiving layer contains at least a pigment capable of holding a coloring agent of an ink and showing a low viscosity at a relatively low pH value and a high viscosity at a relatively high pH value, and a binder for said pigment, said ink receiving layer includes a first layer region in which said binder is crosslinked with a first crosslinking agent of a pH value capable of maintaining said pigment at a low viscosity, and a second layer region in which said binder is crosslinked with the first crosslinking agent and a second crosslinking agent of a pH value capable of maintaining said pigment at a high viscosity, and said first layer region is positioned closer to said ink recording surface than said second layer region and has a higher pH value.

15 - 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 1, wherein said undercoat layer comprises a decreasing region, in which said reactive substance is present in a such distribution as to decrease in the direction of depth of said undercoat layer .

30. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 1, wherein said reactive substance is a cationic substance.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A recording medium for ink according to claim 30, wherein said cationic substance is not present in said ink receiving layer.

33. (Previously Presented) A recording medium for ink according to claim 1, wherein said ink receiving layer contains alumina hydrate and a binder for said alumina hydrate.